Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115346 ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/P:MMSCHNEIDER:MMS APPROVED BY ARA/P:WJDIETERICH

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P 052109Z MAY 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 115346

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP, CS

SUBJECT: MAY 5, 1978 NOON BRIEFING

THE FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF 5/5/78 NOON BRIEFING:

Q: KEN, I WOULD LIKE TO GO BACK TO THE QUESTION YESTERDAY ABOUT THOSE REPORTS ON TODMAN. THOSE REPORTS SEEM TO SAY THAT TODMAN WAS EASED OUT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T AGREE WITH THE PRESIDENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS. COULD YOU ADDRESS THAT ISSUE?

A: JUAN, I CAN ADDRESS IT, AND I WOULD LIKE TO DENY EMPHATICALLY THE IDEA THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN IS BEING EASED OUT.

WHEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN AGREED TO HEAD THE LATIN AMERICAN BUREAU, HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WOULD BE FOR A LIMITED PERIOD. THAT WAS UNDERSTOOD.

THEN WHEN IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT HE WOULD HAVE AN OPPOR-UNCLASSIFIED

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TUNITY TO ASSUME THE AMBASSADORSHIP IN AN IMPORTANT COUNTRY, HE REQUESTED TO BE CONSIDERED. THE FACT THAT HE WAS CONSIDERED AND THE FACT THAT THIS IS MOVING FORWARD IS TESTIMONY TO THE VERY HIGH REGARD AND VERY HIGH ESTEEM IN WHICH HE IS HELD IN THE DEPARTMENT AND BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

AND THE ALLEGATION, THE REPORT, THAT THIS IS IN SOME WAY

THE RESULT OF A DIFFERENCE IN POLICY, AN EASING HIM OUT
BECAUSE OF THIS DIFFERENCE IN POLICY, IS SOMETHING THAT
I CAN FIRMLY DENY.

Q: HAVE YOU YET RECEIVED AN AGREMENT FROM MADRID?

A: YES.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, AMBASSADORS

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, CS, US, SP, (TODMAN, TERENCE A)
To: SAN JOSE

Type: TE

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